

ever a ruler of old greeted with a greater flourish of trumpets than that which heralded the new clergyman. But *tempora mutantur!* and none are now so poor as to do him reverence. There is a lesson in all this, and that is sincere friendship is just as often found lacking in the church as out of it, or friendship and Christianity as practised at the present day are far from being synonymous terms. Nevertheless, I shall be greatly mistaken if the Rev. P. McF. Macleod does not recover, and some day I hope to hear of him as the pastor of some large and wealthy congregation. Let *Nil Desperandum* be his motto, and success will come in its own good time.

The young man, as well as the young woman, coming into a strange town, or who is without the comforts and conveniences of home, needs the fostering care and kindness of some protecting and guiding hand. Possibly no other institution has met this requirement so fully as the Young Men's Christian Associations we now see in every city and town throughout the universe. It has been the life belt that has kept many hundreds of young men, yes, and old men, too, from sinking in the sea of vice, and, as such an agency, one cannot help giving it a certain amount of respect. The fact of the great good it sometimes accomplishes, however, should not permit us to close our eyes to some of its faults. It is sometimes very unbusinesslike in its methods, a fault which should not be condoned under any circumstances, as its *raison d'être* is to teach regularity of habits. It is also at times very unpatriotic in spending money collected in a certain place to the benefit of outside parties, whose interests are foreign, if not inimical to the home centre. I remember an instance in Montreal where the Y. M. C. A. had collected something like a hundred thousand dollars for a new building, and were otherwise heavily indebted to the kindness of several of the merchant princes of the Canadian metropolis. It will scarcely be believed that the institution engaged an American architect, gave the building contract to an American, who imported most of his skilled labor and purchased the bulk of his material on the other side of the line. However, to come nearer home, there is a business laxity about the institution here that is not commendable by any means. The announcement is made that there is a deficiency of some three thousand dollars. A deficit is of course common to such an institution, but the statement should be made in a business like manner. There should be some authoritative announcement outside of the bold remark that there is a deficit of \$3,000 and that a vigorous canvass will be made to meet it. There is no charge of wrongdoing preferred against anyone, but any looseness in the manner of conducting the affairs of the institution is not calculated to win public confidence. What I should like, and what many others would like to see, is a detailed statement of the receipts and expenditures of the association for say the past six years, showing when and what sums were received, and the disposition made of them. Let there be no "miscellaneous" or "sundry" column, but let everything have the light of the day.

I trust the management of the association will take this hint, and relieve the feelings of not a few well-wishers and supporters of the Y. M. C. A. who have spoken to me lately.

Government street is gradually growing into a rival of Chinatown as regards filth. I doubt if in any city in the world one could find a leading street in such a condition as the principal thoroughfare of Victoria. It was not so bad while the cold weather lasted, but now that the warm days are here, the stench is almost unbearable. If the members of the city council would desist in useless discussions of minor matters and turn their attention to the filthy condition of Government street, they would receive the hearty thanks of the citizens.

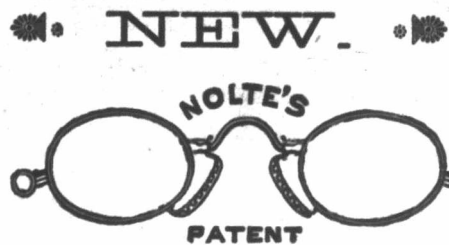
PERE GRINATOR.

VICTORIA COLLEGE FOR LADIES.

The success which attended the production of certain scenes in "A Midsummer Night's Dream," at the closing exercises of Miss Kitto's school this week, was as great as it was unexpected. Few if any of the audience could have been prepared for the treat which was in store for them, and the Misses Kitto were more than entitled to the warm congratulations they received. As the Bishop of Columbia observed in his well chosen and apt remarks which pre- faced the distribution of prizes at his hands, "It is rare indeed to find amongst girls so young such ease of manner and grace of diction as characterized the performance as a whole." The performers—one and all—acquitted themselves admirably, and fully repaid the time and trouble which had been bestowed upon the task of instructing them by their coach, Mr. Scalfé, who has already won his spurs as a stage manager in Victoria. To teach young girls to speak Shakesperian lines in the only way in which they should be spoken, namely, as if their sense were understood and their beauties appreciated, is no easy task, but it has been accomplished and accomplished successfully. The Misses Kitto have done well and wisely in setting the highest possible standard before their pupils, and it is to be hoped that "A Midsummer Night's Dream" may be followed by even more ambitious efforts. Titania and Oberon spoke their lines amongst the most beautiful that the great master ever wrote, delightfully, and special mention should be made of Bottom Quince and Flute amongst the "rude mechanicals," who ably filled their respective parts. The scene where the fairies clad as different flowers and blossoms are discovered asleep was deservedly applauded, and the effect thrown upon the stage by various colored side lights was really excellent.

The greatest possible credit is due to the property man. Mr. Sowerby, for his clever manufacture of the needful accessories in the shape of fairies' wings, asses' heads, etc., etc. Truly his nimble fingers accomplished wonders with a piece of tin and a pair of pincers. An admirable foil to the Shakesperian selection was a scene from "Alice in

Wonderland" wherein the mock turtles, Alice and the Gryphon, appear. This was exceedingly well given all the points being made with great precision and evoking much merriment and applause.



NOLTE'S PATENT EYEGLASS.
 NO large springs to disfigure the forehead.
 NOTHING to equal them in neatness of appearance, wear and comfort.

SEE THEM AT THE ONLY OPTICIANS OF B. C.

F. W. NOLTE & CO.,
 37 FORT STREET.

CHICAGO + CANDY FACTORY.

—:—: Fine Confectionery. —:—:

Foreign and Domestic Fruits.

—:—: Ice Cream Parlor. —:—:

G. A. McCULLOCH,

30 Government Street.

C. W. Rogers

**FINE CONFECTIONERY
 ICE CREAM AND
 ICE CREAM SODA.**

The San Francisco
 Candy Factory,

29 GOVERNMENT STREET.

**THE VICTORIA
 HOME JOURNAL,**

\$1.00 PER ANNUM.

The Home Journal is copied every week by over 100 papers in Canada and the United States.